



Martin O'Malley, *Governor*  
Anthony G. Brown, *Lt. Governor*  
Abigail Ross Hopper, *Director*

**Notice of Grant Availability- FY 15 Community Windswept Grant Program**

**Program Description:** Grants for community-scale wind projects located within Maryland  
Community-scale wind projects using turbines that range in size from 50kW to 1.5MW

**Program Budget:** Up to \$1 million in fiscal year 2015

**Eligible Entities:** Businesses, State government agencies, local governments, and non-profits

**Type of Grant Program:** Competitive

**Grant Evaluation Criteria:** MEA will evaluate applications competitively based on the following criteria: greatest project capacity, greatest funding leverage, the submission of a feasibility study, the quality of a feasibility study, and geographic diversity of grants awarded. The feasibility study should clearly analyze the technical and economic components of the proposed project. Preference will be given to applications that include letters of support from participating and affected entities (e.g., host site, local government, etc.) and to projects using turbines certified by the Interstate Turbine Advisory Council, Small Wind Certification Council, or that are New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) eligible. MEA will only select for funding applications that demonstrate a viable project and are able to articulate a defined benefit to the local community. Possible local benefits include, but are not limited to, community ownership; community power purchase; or serving load at a local community, academic, or municipal facility.

**Grant Funding:** MEA will provide a grantee the lesser of the following amounts in grant funding for a selected project:

- Up to \$3,000 per kW of Normalized System Capacity (turbine output at 11m/s wind speed) or
- Up to 50% of net project costs after deducting the amounts provided from: all federal, state, and local tax incentives; and any grant funding provided from federal, state, or local governments, or private entities.

Net project costs may include design, permitting, construction, materials, and project management. MEA anticipates grant funding up to the maximum \$1.0 million for Fiscal Year 2015, subject to funding availability.

**Application Deadline:** December 15, 2014

**Restrictions and Limitations:**

- To receive grant funding for a project, the successful applicant must enter into a Grant Agreement with MEA by no later than January 15, 2015.
- A grant award will not be made for any project that starts construction prior to the effective date of the Grant Agreement with MEA.
- Prior to the start of construction, selected projects must be reviewed by the Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) or the qualified historical preservation expert on MEA's staff to ensure that no historical property will be adversely impacted. MEA may require the Grantee to provide additional information concerning the proposed project site, in order to enable the historic preservation review.
- The following steps must be completed by each grantee by June 15, 2016:

- All projects selected to receive fiscal year 2015 *Community Windswept* grant award must be completed and in operation; and
- Each Grantee must submit a complete Community Windswept Grant Completion Package. The *Community Windswept* Grant Completion Package consists of the *Community Windswept* Completion Certificate; proof of payment in full for the project; copies of all inspection documents, permits, and licenses required to operate the project; and a photograph of the installed and operational project.
- Given the abbreviated application timeline, grant awards will be made on a conditional basis and are contingent upon obtaining a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation.
- Only net metering projects will be considered for this grant program.
- If the Project's location is owned or controlled by a third party at any time during the Grant period, the grantee shall be responsible for obtaining written permission from the third party to allow MEA access to the property to perform monitoring and to take photographs or take videos of the project. Written permission, in the form of the *Maryland Energy Administration Community Windswept Program Consent for MEA Staff or Representative to Enter Property*, must be submitted at the time of application.
- MEA reserves the right to obligate all or none (\$0) of the fiscal year 2015 *Community Windswept Grant Program* budget, based on the quality and eligibility of applications submitted to MEA.

**For more information or assistance, please visit [www.energy.maryland.gov](http://www.energy.maryland.gov) or contact:**

Emilee van Norden, Community Wind Program Manager  
[Emilee.vannorden@maryland.gov](mailto:Emilee.vannorden@maryland.gov) or 410-260-2613